

REMARKS

Claims 15, 17 and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 16, 18 and 20 have been rewritten in independent form, and have further been amended to clarify their language as kindly suggested by the Examiner in paragraph 4 of the Office Action. (It should be noted that method Claim 18 has been rewritten to incorporate the recitations of method Claim 17, and not those of apparatus Claim 15.) In addition, the specification has been amended to conform the Summary of the Invention to the present claims. A substitute drawing sheet to replace the original sheet bearing Fig. 2 is submitted herewith, to correct minor informalities in that Figure. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claims 16, 18 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form with no change in scope. Since those claims have been so rewritten, they are believed to be clearly in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants again respectfully request favorable reconsideration and passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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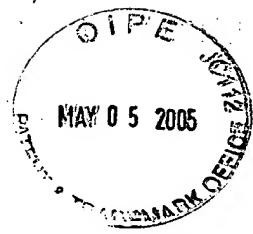


FIG. 2

